

## Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 BOGOTA 06907 271712Z  
ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 ARA-14 ISO-00 /023 W  
-----098597 280259Z /65

R 271620Z JUL 77  
FM AMEMBASSY BOGOTA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2825  
INFO USDOC WASHDC

UNCLAS BOGOTA 6907

EO 11652: NA  
TAGS: BENC CO  
SUBJ: US CONSTRUCTION FIRMS WORKING IN COLOMBIA

REF: STATE A-2104

1. INFORMATION OBTAINED FROM RELIABLE GOVERNMENT AND PRIVATE SOURCES INDICATES THAT THERE ARE NO US CONSTRUCTION FIRMS WORKING IN COLOMBIA AT THE PRESENT TIME. THERE ARE, HOWEVER, A NUMBER OF US COMPANIES PERFORMING FEASIBILITY STUDIES AND BIDDING ON DIFFERENT COLOMBIAN PROJECTS.

2. FOLLOWING IS A BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF PAST AND PRESENT ACTIVITIES OF FIRMS LISTED IN REPAIR: BECHTEL CORPORATION: IMPORTANT NICKEL PROJECT IN COLOMBIA. SUBJECT CONCERN HAS PERFORMED FEASIBILITY STUDY AND DESIGN FOR CERRO MATOSO PROJECT, THE LARGEST COLOMBIAN NICKEL MINE. THIS PROJECT IS BEING DEVELOPED BY HANNA MINING COMPANY OF CLEVELAND, OHIO, AND COLOMBIAN CONCERN EMPRESA COLOMBIANA DE NICKEL LTDA. IF PROJECT CONTINUES, HANNA MINING WILL BE INVOLVED IN CONSTRUCTION WORK. OVERALL CONTRACT INCLUDES BUILDING A 250 BED HOSPITAL, SMALL AIRPORT, HOUSES, SCHOOL, AND OTHER FACILITIES FOR THE MINE'S EXPLOITATION. FOSTER WHEELER CORPORATION: NOW OPERATES UNDER THE NAME OF FOSTER WHEELER ANDINA AND PERFORMS ENGINEERING STUDIES FOR DIFFERENT COLOMBIAN PROJECTS. SUBJECT  
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FIRM WAS AWARDED THE CONSTRUCTION CONTRACT FOR THE TUMACO OIL REFINERY BUT THIS PROJECT HAS BEEN POSTPONED BY THE GOVERNMENT UNTIL DECEMBER 31, 1977. POSSIBILITIES FOR ITS FINAL DEVELOPMENT ARE NOT VERY CLEAR AT THIS TIME. HARBERT CONSTRUCTION COPORATION: THIS FIRM WORKED TOGETHER WITH COLOMBIAN CONCERN, DISTRAL, IN THE CONSTRUCTION OF A PIPELINE FOR COLOMBIAN

PETROLEUM COMPANY, BUT IT IS NO LONGER ACTIVE IN THE COUNTRY. FISH ENGINEERING AND CONSTRUCTION COMPANY: PROVIDES ASSISTANCE TO THE COLOMBIAN PETROLEUM COMPANY FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF AN ETHANE RECOVERY PLANT IN BARRANCABERMEJA.

3. EMBASSY WOULD ALSO LIKE TO EMPHASIZE THAT US CONSTRUCTION FIRMS WISHING TO DO BUSINESS IN COLOMBIA MUST BE AWARE OF THE REQUIREMENT TO REGISTER WITH DIFFERENT GOC ENTITIES IN ORDER TO BE ABLE TO PRESENT THEIR PROPOSALS (DECREE 106 JANUARY 77).

4. EMBASSY WILL CONTINUE TO REPORT DEVELOPMENTS IN THIS SECTOR.  
DREXLER

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NNN

## Message Attributes

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**Review Markings:**  
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